

Message Text

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CONFIDENTIAL SECTION 1 OF 2 USNATO 3078

E.O. 11652: GDS 12/31/80
TAGS: MCAP, NATO
SUBJ: RATIONALIZATION AND SPECIALIZATION REPORT

SUMMARY. THIS MESSAGE CONTAINS THE REVISED TEXT OF THE DRAFT REPORT BY THE DEFENSE PLANNING COMMITTEE IN PERMANENT SESSION ON SUBJECT. MISSION CONSIDERS THIS REVISION TO BE AN IMPROVEMENT OVER PREVIOUS VERSION. AS DISCUSSED SEPTEL, THE EWG WILL CONSIDER THIS DRAFT AT MEETING A.M. JUNE 4. ACTION REQUESTED: WASHINGTON GUIDANCE ON DRAFT BY CLOSE OF BUSINESS JUNE 3.
END SUMMARY. BEGIN TEXT:

SPECIALISATION
REVISED TEXT OF WORKING PAPER AC/281-WP(74)5

BACKGROUND AND SCOPE

1. AT THEIR MEETING ON 7TH DECEMBER, 1973, MINISTERS
CONSIDERED A REPORT (1) ON SPECIALISATION AND ENDORSED ITS
RECOMMENDATIONS; INTER ALIA, THEY INVITED THE DEFENCE PLANNING
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COMMITTEE IN PERMANENT SESSION TO CONTINUE THEIR STUDY OF THE
POSSIBILITIES OF SPECIALISATION IN THE CENTRAL REGION. THEY ALSO
AGREED THAT THE AIM OF SPECIALISATION WAS TO ENSURE THE BEST USE
OF THE RESOURCES AVAILABLE FOR ALLIANCE DEFENCE, AND THAT THE

OVERALL CAPABILITY OF NATO FORCES SHOULD NOT BE REDUCED THEREBY.
THIS REPORT DESCRIBES THE STATUS SINCE THE 1973 DECEMBER
MINISTERIAL MEETING.

DECISIONS BY THE DEFENCE PLANNING COMMITTEE

2. THE DEFENCE PLANNING COMMITTEE EXAMINED THE BEST MEANS OF IMPLEMENTING THE MINISTERS' INVITATION TO CONTINUE ITS STUDY ON THE POSSIBILITIES OF SPECIALISATION IN THE CENTRAL REGION. THEY DECIDED TO TRANSFER THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR SUPERVISING SUCH STUDIES FROM THE SPECIAL STEERING GROUP TO THE USUAL NATO MACHINERY. ALTHOUGH THE DETAILED WORK WOULD STILL NEED TO BE DONE IN SPECIALISED SUB-GROUPS, THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR DIRECTING THE WORK OF THE SUB-GROUPS AND MAINTAINING THE RELATIONSHIPS HAS BEEN DELEGATED BY THE DEFENCE PLANNING COMMITTEE TO THE EXECUTIVE WORKING GROUP.

3. THE DEFENCE PLANNING COMMITTEE DREW THE ATTENTION OF THE EXECUTIVE WORKING GROUP TO THE DISCUSSION BETWEEN THE NETHERLANDS AND GERMAN AUTHORITIES ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PLAN FOR PROVIDING A MODERN SURFACE-TO-SURFACE MISSILE SYSTEM FOR THE NETHERLANDS ARMY (2). IN ADDITION, REFERENCE WAS MADE TO THE

(1) DPC/D(73)31, 3RD DECEMBER, 1973.

(2) DPC/R(73)20, 15TH FEBRUARY 1974

RECOMMENDATION (1) ACCEPTED BY THE NETHERLANDS TO CONCENTRATE PROGRESSIVELY ON CERTAIN TASKS WHEN RE-EQUIPPING ITS F-104G SQUADRONS, AND THE IMPLICATIONS OF THIS SPECIALISATION MEASURE FOR OTHER COUNTRIES OF THE CENTRAL REGION.

4. ALSO AT ITS MEETING ON 19TH MARCH, 1974 THE DEFENCE PLANNING COMMITTEE CONSIDERED THE REPORT PREPARED BY THE MARITIME SUB-GROUP. THE REPORT CONTAINED A NUMBER OF RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FURTHER WORK WHICH IT WAS PROPOSED SHOULD BE CARRIED OUT BY EXISTING NATO BODIES OR THE EUROGROUP. THESE RECOMMENDATIONS DID NOT, HOWEVER, APPEAR TO THE DEFENCE PLANNING COMMITTEE TO CONFIDENTIAL

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CONTAIN SUFFICIENT SUBSTANCE TO WARRANT BRINGING THE REPORT TO THE ATTENTION OF MINISTERS.

TASKS AND PROCEDURES--EXECUTIVE WOKING GROUP

5. FOLLOWING THE DEFENCE PLANNING COMMITTEE DECISION OF 19TH MARCH, 1974, THE EXECUTIVE WOKING GROUP UNDERTOOK THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE STUDY ON SPECIALISATION IN THE CENTRAL REGION. THE OBJECTIVE WAS TO IDENTIFY WHAT SECTORS OF MILITARY ACTIVITY WERE SUITABLE FOR STUDY FROM THE POINT OF VIEW OF SPECIALISATION, EITHER ON A BILATERAL OR MULTILATERAL BASIS. THE EXECUTIVE WORKING GROUP RECOGNISED THAT SPECIALISATION MUST NOT IMPLY ANY REDUCTION OF DEFENCE EFFORT ON THE PART OF THE COUNTRIES

INVOLVED; IT WAS IMPLICIT THAT THIS MEANT THAT THE TOTAL REOURCES DEBATED BY COUNTRIES TO DEFENCE SHOULD NOT BE REDUCED AS A RESULT OF SPECIALISATION. IT WILL BE RECALLED THAT THE STUDY ON SPECIALISATION BEGAN WITH THE EXAMINATION OF THE CENTRAL REGION. WHEN THE EXECUTIVE WORKING GROUP UNDERTOOK ITS SEARCH FOR FURTHER AREAS FOR SPECIALISATION, THE GROUP DECIDED NOT TO CONFINE THE EXAMINATION EXCLUSIVELY TO THE CENTRAL REGION. IT WAS UNDERSTOOD THAT ANY FURTHER SUB-GROUPS ESTABLISHED SHOULD BE OPEN TO ALL INTERESTED COUNTRIES.

(1) DPC/D(73)31, 3RD DECEMBER, 1973.

6. THE EXECUTIVE WORKING GROUP WAS ASKED TO RESPOND TO SUGGESTION FOLLOWING A PRESENTATION BY THE UNITED STATES THAT COUNTRIES SHOULD PUT FORWARD PROPOSALS, WHICH WERE REALISTIC NOT ONLY FROM A MILITARY BUT ALSO FROM A POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC POINT OF VIEW. THE STUDY OF THESE PROPOSALS WAS TO BE LEFT TO EXISTING SUB-GROUPS COMPOSED MAINLY OF NATIONAL EXPERTS AND NATO MILITARY AUTHORITIES. FURTHER, THE EXECUTIVE WORKING GROUP AGREED THAT, THOUGH INITIAL STUDIES HAD BEEN CONFINED TO THE CENTRAL REGION, FUTURE STUDIES SHOULD BE OPEN TO PARTICIPATION BY ANY COUNTRIES WILLING TO TAKE PART. ACCORDINGLY, A WORKING PAPER HAS BEEN CIRCULATED LISTING THE AREAS OR FUNCTIONS WHICH HAD SO FAR BEEN SUGGESTED AS SUITABLE FOR STUDY (1).

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7. THE EXECUTIVE WORKING GROUP HAS ALSO CONSIDERED A SUBSTANTIVE REPORT ISSUED BY THE SUB-GROUP FOR A STUDY ON LOGISTIC SPECIALISATION IN THE CENTRAL REGION (2). THIS IS THE FIRST SYSTEMATIC COMPILATION OF ON-GOING ACTIVITIES IN THE ROLE

OF LOGISTICS CO-OPERATION AND CO-ORDINATION WITHIN NATO, AND OFFERS PRACTICAL RECOMMENDATIONS FOR LOGISTIC SPECIALISATION. THE SUB-GROUP FIRST EXAMINED THE CO-OPERATIVE EFFORTS ALREADY UNDERWAY BETWEEN NATIONAL MILITARY FORCES OR AS A RESULT OF THE WORK OF NATO BODIES SUCH AS EUROGROUP AND NAMSA, AND THEN IDENTIFIED A FEW PROMISING AREAS SUSCEPTIBLE OF LOGISTIC SPECIALISATION.

8. A NUMBER OF RECOMMENDATIONS NOW LIE BEFORE THE EXECUTIVE WORKING GROUP. A PRINCIPAL PROPOSAL IS THAT SPECIALISATION POSSIBILITIES MUST BE CONSIDERED IN THE INITIAL STAGES OF ANY NEW COMMON EQUIPMENT PROJECT NOT ONLY FOR DEVELOPMENT AND PRODUCTION, BUT ALSO FOR LOGISTIC SUPPORT. OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS WERE OF A MORE DETAILED NATURE INVOLVING ACTION BY VARIOUS EXISTING BODIES OR BY NATIONS AND IN ONE CASE URGING A PRIORITY STUDY OF MOVEMENT AND TRANSPORTATION PROBLEMS IN LOC AREAS. THE RESULTS OF THE ACTIVITIES WOULD BE REPORTED

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THROUGH THE EXECUTIVE WORKING GROUP TO THE DEFENCE PLANNING COMMITTEE.

(1) AC/281-WP(74)2, 19TH APRIL, 1974.
(2) AC/281-REPORT(74)11, 17TH MAY, 1974.

9. THE EXECUTIVE WORKING GROUP, WHILE WELCOMING THE REPORT, DID NOT FEEL THAT THERE HAD BEEN SUFFICIENT TIME TO DO JUSTICE TO ITS CONTENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS. CONSEQUENTLY, THE EXECUTIVE WORKING GROUP THOUGHT IT PREMATURE TO ENDORSE THE REPORT AND TO RECOMMEND IT TO THE ATTENTION OF MINISTERS.

10. IN ITS DISCUSSIONS THE EXECUTIVE WORKING GROUP CONSIDERED THE STATEMENTS BY NATIONAL REPRESENTATIVES, THE LIST OF SUGGESTED SUBJECTS FOR STUDY, AND THE FINAL REPORT OF THE LOGISTICS SPECIALISATION STUDY SUB-GROUP. THE EXECUTIVE WORKING GROUP RECOGNISED THAT SPECIALISATION HAD THE OBJECTIVE OF MAKING COUNTRIES' DEFENCE CONTRIBUTIONS MORE COST-EFFECTIVE. HOWEVER, NATIONAL POLITICAL, MILITARY AND ECONOMIC SENSITIVITIES HAD TO BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT WHEN TRYING TO IDENTIFY THOSE MATTERS WHICH POSSIBLY COULD BE STUDIED JOINTLY BY COUNTRIES IN SEARCH OF SPECIALISATION.

CONCLUSIONS

11. THE EXECUTIVE WORKING GROUP HAS CONCLUDED THAT THE STUDIES ARISING OUT OF THE NETHERLANDS' NATIONAL INITIATIVE AND THE SUBSEQUENT FOLLOW-UP EXAMINATION INTO THE POSSIBILITIES FOR SPECIALISATION IN DEFENCE TASKS HAVE BEEN USEFUL. WHILE IT HAS NOT YET BECOME CLEAR AS TO THE DIRECTION IN WHICH WORK SHOULD PROCEED THERE IS, NEVERTHELESS, A GROWING CONVICTION THAT THE CONCEPT OF SPECIALISATION COULD LEAD TO WORTHWHILE RESULTS BEARING IN MIND THAT THE OBJECTIVE IS TO OPTIMISE NATO'S COLLECTIVE DEFENCE EFFORT THROUGH CO-OPERATION, A PROCESS WHICH CAN ONLY

BE ACHIEVED WITH POLITICAL CONSENT. THE EXECUTIVE WORKING GROUP BELIEVES THAT AT PRESENT, THOUGH THEY HAVE NOT YET SUCCEEDED IN IDENTIFYING ANY SPECIFIC PROJECTS WHICH MIGHT BE PURSUED FURTHER, THE SEARCH SHOULD BE CONTINUED; BUT IT IS DESIRABLE TO AVOID DUPLICATION OF EFFORT WITH OTHER NATO BODIES WORKING IN THIS FIELD AND WITH THE EUROGROUP.

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RECOMMENDATIONS

12. THE DEFENCE PLANNING COMMITTEE ENDORSES THE VIEW OF THE EXECUTIVE WORKING GROUP AND RECOMMENDS THAT MINISTERS:

(A) TAKE NOTE OF THIS REPORT AND ITS CONCLUSIONS;

(B) APPROVE FURTHER STUDY OF SPECIALISATION BY THE EXECUTIVE WORKING GROUP, CONCENTRATING ON THE AREAS OFFERING PROMISE THAT MAY BE RECOMMENDED BY NATIONS AND THE NATO MILITARY AUTHORITIES, AND THAT THE EXECUTIVE WORKING GROUP SHOULD MONITOR AREAS UNDER STUDY BY EXISTING BODIES AND LEND SUPPORT AND CO-ORDINATION WHERE APPROPRIATE;

(C) REAFFIRM THAT SPECIALISATION MUST NOT IMPLY ANY REDUCTION OF DEFENCE EFFORT ON THE PART OF THE COUNTRIES INVOLVED.

END TEXT. RUMSFELD

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